conditions of the Letter of Intent granted to M/s. Pepsi Foods Pvt. Ltd. is that the turnover from soft drink concentrate manufacturing shall in no year exceed 25 per cent of the total turnover of the company for that year.

(b) The export obligation will be monitored by the Chief Controller of Imports & Exports as in similar other cases. In regard to the turnover of soft drink the same will be monitored on the basis of the monthly production return which will be furnished by M/s. Pepsi Foods Pvt. Ltd.

(c) The monitoring will be on the basis of financial year i.e., April to March.

Suicide by a cotton grower in Andhra Pradesh

1650. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cotton grower by name Shri Vankayalapati Sitaramaiah, committed suicide on 10th April at Ansole in Prakasam district of Andhra pradesh;

(b) if so, what are the reasons and how many cotton growers in Prakasam and Guntur districts died of suicides; and

(c) what steps have been taken to relieve the cotton growers of Andhra from this unprecedented tragedy?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that they have no information in this regard.

(c) Government of India appointed a High Power Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. P.D. Ojha, Deputy Governor of RBI to look into the problems of cotton growers of Prakasam and Guntur districts of Andhra Pradesh. Based on the recommendations of the High Power Committee, RBI had issued instructions in June, 1988 to scheduled comercial banks for providing relief to cotton growers in these two districts of Andhra Pradesh. Important relief measures recommended are:

(i) The banks as a special case should defer recovery of principal as well as interest from the affected farmers for a period of two years or till the next normal year whichever is earlier. This relief is to be extended on the merits of each case.

(ii) Banks should not charge penal interest nor should they compound the interest. Banks should also ensure that in the case of short term loans, the total interest payable by small and marginal farmers does not exceed the principal.

(iii) Banks should stop auctioning of gold ornaments pledged with them. Such action should be taken only as a last resort when all other avenues for recovery of dues have failed that too after obtaining clearance from higher levels in each case.

(iv) Banks may extend consumption loan facilities upto Rs. 500/- per family.

(v) Banks should sanction loans for allied activities like dairy, poultry, etc. to the affected farmers when demanded.

नेशनल इंश्यूरेंस कंपनी लिमिटेड में हिन्दी अधिकारी

1651. **श्री रजनी रंजन साहू:** क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि नेशनल इंश्यूरेंस कंपनी लिमिटेड में हिन्दी अधिकारियों से हिन्दी का काम न कराकर अन्य कार्य करवाया जा रहा है;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि नेशनल इंश्यूरेंस कंपनी के उत्तर क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय में कार्यरत एक हिन्दी अधिकारी को हिन्दी विभाग से हटाकर कंपनी की शाहदरा स्थित शाखा में प्रबंधक के रूप में तैनात कर दिया गया था; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो सरकार हिन्दी विरोधी रवैये के लिए अधिकारियों के विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही करने का विचार रखती है?